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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Badley	
Application No.: 09/554,956	
Filed: 7/11/2000	Group Art Unit: 1641
Title: Improvements in or Relating to Displacement Assays	Examiner: G. Gabel
Attorney Docket No.: IMIN.P-019	

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.115

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to further examination of the above-captioned for which a Request for Continuing Examination is being filed concurrently, please amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

Please amend claim 1 to read as follows:

1. (twice amended) A method of detecting the presence of an analyte of interest in a sample, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a first surface having reversibly immobilised thereon a displaceable moiety, the displaceable moiety being immobilised on the first surface, said displaceable moiety having [with] an affinity for the first surface lower than [that] the affinity of the displaceable moiety for the analyte of interest;

exposing the first surface to a sample comprising the analyte of interest, whereby the analyte of interest specifically displaces [displacing] the displaceable moiety from the first surface;

